



**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
TOWN OF NEW MARLBOROUGH  
OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
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Tara B. White, Chair  
Michele Shalaby  
Nathaniel H. Yohalem  
Board of Selectmen

**Minutes of Selectmen's Meeting  
Wednesday, February 11, 2015**

**Board Members Present:** Tara B. White, Chairman  
Michele Shalaby  
Nat Yohalem

**Others Present:** Joseph Kellogg, Administrative Assistant  
Sharon Fleck, Administrative Secretary

**The meeting of the Board of Selectmen convened at 11:00 p.m.**

**Budgets** – The following budgets were presented to the Board for approval:

Finance Committee Expenses	\$ 500	Level Funded
Treasurer Expenses	\$ 3,300	Level Funded
Treasurer Software & Support	\$ 3,450	Increase \$250
Roads and Bridges Salary	\$ 274,061	Increase \$13,514
Highway Dept. Training Expenses	\$ 2,300	Increase \$800
Electricity	\$ 4,500	Level Funded
Propane	\$ 18,000	Level Funded
Diesel	\$ 59,000	Level Funded
Highway Uniforms and Gear	\$ 3,500	Increase \$500
Town Garage Maintenance	\$ 12,500	Increase \$1,000
Machinery Expense	\$ 76,046	Increase \$5,000
Fire Protection	\$ 60,900	Level Funded
Firefighter's Stipend	\$ 36,500	Level Funded
Fire Department Dues	\$ 200	Level Funded
Fire Department Clerical	\$ 1,700	Level Funded
Ambulance Loan	\$ 27,494	Decrease \$671
2013 Highway Truck Loan	\$ 40,832	Decrease \$1038
Town Hall Renovations Loan 2013	\$ 14,073	Decrease \$357
2014 Highway Truck Loan	\$ 25,680	Decrease \$490
Loader Loan	\$ 18,715	Decrease \$236
2015 Highway Truck Loan	\$ 49,060	New

Interest Expense	\$ 5,000	Level Funded
Banking Service	\$ 200	Level Funded
Berkshire County Retirement Assoc.	\$ 112,635	Increase \$11,682
Winter Roads	\$ 266,334	Increase \$10,000
Roads and Bridges	\$ 195,000	Increase \$5,000

**A motion was made, seconded and so approved to endorse the above FY16 budgets.**

The Tax Title (Treasurer) budget is being held for further review.

### **Proposed Budgets**

Joe Kellogg discussed the Town Hall salaries. It was agreed that the Selectmen's Salaries, Expenses and Contingency would be level funded. Joe also suggested the budget amount for the Audit account be raised to \$15,000 and the Administrative Assistant's salary be set at \$38,000, plus benefits. Joe recommended increasing the Administrative Secretary salary to \$28,000. This position has taken on more responsibility than before and will be critical to the new part-time Administrative Assistant when hired.

**Mike Skorput Retirement** – According to Joe Kellogg, the Town is being invoiced for health insurance for Mike. Although Mike gave a retirement date of January 3, 2015, Berkshire Retirement has not received any paperwork from him indicating the same. Joe advised Mike that he would have to first fill out the paperwork before the Town completed its part.

**Wired West** – Joe Kellogg indicated he had spoken with Tim Newman the previous day regarding setting a meeting with a Selectboard member and member(s) from the Finance Committee. Selectman Yohalem reaffirmed his decision he did not want to sign the letter presented to the Board by Wired West; he felt it would be construed as the Board endorsing the Wired West plan. Selectman Shalaby felt there were two major tripping points to the Wired West plan: (1) Tax rate on individuals, (2) the indebtedness incurred to the Town. Selectman Shalaby felt that if Wired West presented alternatives to the funding, it would be a worthwhile meeting; however, if no alternate plans are proposed, she felt it would be not be a productive meeting.

**Being that there was no further business to be brought before the Board, a motion was made, seconded and so voted by all members to adjourn the meeting 12:00 p.m. and go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing Police Chief, Fire Chief and Highway Superintendent contracts and not return to Regular Session.**

<b>Roll Call:</b>	<b>Tara White, Chairman</b>	<b>Aye</b>
	<b>Michele Shalaby</b>	<b>Aye</b>
	<b>Nathaniel Yohalem</b>	<b>Aye</b>

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon Fleck